

32FF  
2-6-03  
DL



Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 000515-141

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of ) **BOX: RCE**  
Urban WIDLUND ) Group Art Unit: 3761  
Application No.: 09/194,700 ) Examiner: M. Kidwell  
Filed: March 4, 1999 )  
For: **ABSORBENT ARTICLE HAVING** )  
**IMPROVED SURFACE** )  
**PROPERTIES** )

**RECEIVED**  
FEB 05 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**REPLY & AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed September 3, 2002, and the Advisory  
Actions mailed January 10, 2003 and January 15, 2003, please amend the above-identified  
patent application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel Claims 18 and 21.

Please amend claims 1, 16, 17, 19, 20, and 22 as follows:

- I4
1. (Four Times Amended) Absorbent article for maintaining mucous  
membranes of a user moist, the absorbent article comprising:  
  
a liquid-pervious surface layer,  
  
a liquid-impervious surface layer, and